



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW1901

August 6, 2001

Weather Varies Throughout the State

Precipitation was scattered last week, leaving northern areas of the state with arid conditions while showers in parts of the Eastern Shore helped crops improve. As a result, Maryland farmers had an average of 6.3 **days suitable for field work** this week. Although the dry weather is ideal for activities such as cutting hay, the areas that received little to no rain are reporting stress to crops and slowed growth in hay and pasture grasses due to the lack of moisture.

Row crop conditions declined somewhat since the previous week. Fifty percent of the **corn** crop is rated in good condition, 17 percent less than the previous week.. The heat is a concern for late planted soybeans, although conditions will be restored if rain is received soon. **Soybeans** are 60 percent in good condition, 15 percent less than the previous week.

Soil moisture levels were reported to have declined significantly in dry areas, but were maintained where showers hit. Consequently topsoil and subsoil moisture levels for the state remain mostly adequate. **Topsoil moisture** is rated 2 percent surplus, 64 percent adequate, 18 percent short, and 16 percent very short. **Subsoil moisture** is 2 percent surplus, 66 percent adequate, 22 percent short, and 10 percent very short.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 5, 2001 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1996-2000
Harvesting Progress:				
Cantaloupes	33	32	53	57
Cucumbers	60	55	59	64
Peaches	35	29	33	36
Potatoes	85	55	75	79
Snap Beans	60	56	54	54
Sweet Corn	38	35	52	57
Tomatoes	40	27	36	42
Watermelons	29	24	24	36
Crop Progress:				
Corn, silked	89	66	90	81
Corn, doughed	49	37	43	34
Corn, dented	18	16	9	9
Sorghum, headed	57	30	52	48
Soybeans, bloomed	51	38	46	50
Soybeans, setting pods	36	14	27	25
Tobacco, bloomed	58	40	80	72
Tobacco, topped	41	30	33	33
Hay Harvested:				
Other hay, 2 nd cutting	88	87	74	75
Other hay, 3 rd cutting	34	30	24	29
Other hay, 4 th cutting	12	10	0	1
Alfalfa, 3 rd cutting	70	44	54	51
Alfalfa, 4 th cutting	17	5	10	6

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 5, 2001 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	2	8	32	50	8
Soybeans	3	8	21	60	8
Sorghum	0	0	9	91	0
Tobacco	0	0	11	86	3
Range & Pasture	5	18	39	32	6

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Precipitation and Departures From Normal, Through July 31, 2001

	July 2001		Since April 1, 2001	
County	Precipitation	Departure From Normal	Accumulated Precipitation	Accumulated Departure
Maryland				
Allegany	3.8	0.2	14.8	0.9
Anne Arundel	6.4	2.7	16.3	1.5
Baltimore	1.9	-2.0	11.4	-4.5
Calvert	5.7	1.7	16.3	0.9
Caroline	5.7	1.8	19.5	4.6
Carroll	1.8	-1.8	10.1	-5.2
Cecil	1.4	-2.7	12.4	-3.5
Charles	5.3	1.4	15.8	1.1
Dorchester	5.6	1.4	19.2	4.3
Frederick	2.4	-1.1	11.1	-4.1
Garrett	5.9	1.2	18.4	1.6
Harford	1.2	-3.0	12.3	-4.3
Howard	1.8	-1.8	11.7	-3.5
Kent	3.8	0.1	14.2	-0.9
Montgomery	3.6	-0.1	16.6	1.9
Prince George's	5.2	1.2	16.2	1.1
Queen Anne's	6.3	2.5	16.1	1.1
Somerset	5.1	1.3	14.0	0.6
St. Mary's	6.1	1.9	17.8	2.3
Talbot	4.9	0.9	17.8	2.6
Washington	1.7	-1.9	10.9	-3.8
Wicomico	5.0	0.9	15.6	1.1
Worcester	4.3	0.2	12.9	-1.3
Delaware				
New Castle	2.3	-1.8	15.8	0.4
Kent	5.3	1.4	18.0	0.3
Sussex	4.9	1.1	16.5	2.2

Source: National Weather Service